

Firms Selected to Become Trainers on the Vulnerability Assessment Methodology for Water Infrastructure Protection

Sandia National Laboratory, under an Interagency Agreement between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and the Department of Energy, will provide training to selected firms in the performance of a vulnerability assessment methodology – known as Risk Assessment Methodology for Water Utilities (RAM-WSM). The goal of the program is to provide experienced trainers who will then offer this course nationally to consultants, water utilities, and government entities. All trainers licensed by Sandia will be required to publicly offer this training course a minimum number of times. The goal is to have high-quality vulnerability assessments conducted at drinking water and wastewater utilities.

Sixty-four training professionals from technical consulting firms, a nonprofit organization, and a water trade group will attend this four-day class on the vulnerability assessment methodology. These groups were selected through a competitive process conducted by Sandia that evaluated the firms' experience in water security matters, training capabilities, and other relevant factors published in the Federal Business Opportunities online catalog. After completion of the Sandia training curriculum, and successfully passing a competency examination, these firms will be licensed to offer the class to others.

The Train-the Trainers classes will be conducted in late April and May. Skilled “second-generation” trainers should be available in the following months to support large community water systems receiving EPA grants to carry out vulnerability assessments, emergency operations plans, and security upgrade planning and design work. For more information on this program see

http://www.epa.gov/safewater/security/rfa_large_grants.html

Following, is a list of the organizations that Sandia Labs will be training in the Risk Assessment Methodology for Water Utilities. If the companies successfully complete the course of study, they will be licensed to convey the methodology. EPA does not and will not endorse any of these companies for the purpose of carrying out vulnerability assessments.

Under the grant program referenced above, EPA has specified that community water systems may contract with any firms that are capable of carrying out all of the elements of a vulnerability assessment, as defined in the Request for Applications for this grant program. The following companies and organizations are licensed to perform the RAM-W training for utilities, government, and other private consultants. If you will be performing a vulnerability assessment and want to hire a firm with RAM-W training, YOU NEED NOT LIMIT yourself to the entities listed here since others will have received this training and may also meet your requirements for performing the work. Utilities should always exercise prudence when contracting for services with these organizations and others performing this type of work.

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